May 29 2020

Noticias y Notas

News and notes from the Second Judicial District Court

A word from the bench

Hello! My name is Daniel Ramczyk and I have been working with you since February of 2019. My parents came to New Mexico from Minnesota in 1949. They had eight children, five girls and three

To the sales

Judge Daniel Ramczyk

boys. I was number six. I was born in 1958 at the old St. Joseph's Hospital. I weighed ten pounds. My mom was not happy.

We all attended our Lady of Fatima Catholic School, Jefferson Middle School and Highland High. A lot of us attended UNM and my oldest sister and I attended UNM School of Law.

I practiced law for twenty years. I made partner at the Miller Stratvert Law Firm and also was a prosecutor and an assistant city attorney. I was appointed to the Metro Court in 2003 and the District Court in 2019. I have handled both criminal and civil dockets and I served on most of the specialty courts at Metro.

The hardest thing about being a judge is doing the right thing regardless of public criticism. The best thing about my job is I have had the opportunity to work with wonderful professional people both at Metro and District Court.

Away from work, I love to exercise. I used to run ten miles a day until I blew my left hip out (duh!). Climbing Kilimanjaro and up to the Mount Everest base camp didn't help my hip much either! Now I just walk with my two little red and white border collies. I lift weights and swim. I love to cook, paint, hike and go to movies. I'm active in my church and I'm active in 12-step recovery. I like to help people who want to get clean and sober. And I love sports cars!

It is an honor to be working with you all on the District Court. Stay healthy!



SJDC employee's daughter joins fight against COVID-19

Victoria Sanchez begins her nursing residency today, Friday May 29, 2020, in The COVID-19 unit at the Presbyterian Rust Medical Center in Rio Rancho.

Victoria graduated from the nursing program at Central New Mexico College in 2019. She passed her nursing licensure exam this past March before applying and being accepted into Presbyterian Hospital's nursing residency program.

Victoria is the daughter of Charlotte Gallegos, Judicial Specialist 2 in the Criminal Division of the Court Clerk's Office.



Nursing Resident Victoria Sanchez



Shout outs



This is the space where we sound the horn for outstanding performances.

This week's shout out to goes to the **DyAnna Garcia**, who has returned to her regular job as Civil Division Supervisor in the downtown Clerk's Office after 4 months as temporary supervisor of the Children's Court Clerk's Office. In addition to implementing new procedures, the Children's Court Clerk's staff received numerous compliments for its public service during DyAnna's time there. For that, we salute the entire **Children's Court's Clerk's Office staff.**

Have news to share? Send it to: albdsxh@nmcourt.gov

COVID-19 Updates

The Supreme Court has ordered that jury trials can resume in courts across the state sometime between June 15 and July 15. The specific date for each court, including SJDC, depends on the Supreme Court's approval of that court's plan for conducting trials in a manner that provides the maximum amount of protection possible against the spread of COVID-19.

Our court's plan is being finalized and will call for strict adherence to safety measures, particularly since resuming jury trials likely means more people will be coming to the courthouse.

To further protect people both working in and visiting the courts, the Supreme Court has partnered with the New Department of Health to provide free COVID-19 testing to all New Mexico Judiciary employees. Our local Human Resources team will inform us the upcoming dates and locations for testing.

In the meantime, we can start preparing for the increased traffic that resuming jury trials will bring by heeding the words from Chief Judge Stan Whitaker's recent email regarding wearing masks in the courthouse. "Not only is it mandated," he wrote "It is the responsible thing to do. None of us like the idea of wearing masks because it's impersonal, inconvenient, and simply a hassle to keep remembering to put them on. But we must do it nevertheless . . . We must adhere to all of the safety protocols that have been put in place for this court and this community to keep us all safe."

Enter a contest for fun and prizes

Join the mask brigades

There are currently two separate mask-design contests in progress. The Administrative Office of the Courts is running a contest that runs through June 30. Prizes in that contest include cash, gift cards and PAID TIME OFF! See <u>rules for that contest here</u>. The Second Judicial District Court is sponsoring a contest to showcase the mask-making talents of our own employees. Prizes, including restaurant gift cards, will be awarded to the creators of the top two designs in this competition. To enter the SJDC contest, simply bring your design to the Human Resources Department by June 12.

Identify the graduate

SJDC has another contest in which everyone can compete. For next the few weeks, we will be running high-school yearbook photos of SJDC judges and executive staff members. The first person to send the correctly identify the person pictured will qualify for a prize. Send your answer to albdsxh@nmcourts.gov. If you are on the staff of the person shown, you are not eligible for that week's contest. Below is our first photo. Do you know this person? The answer will be revealed next week.

